 **Commonly asked questions?**

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| **What are my options?**  | ***Septic tanks/ sewage treatment plants/ cesspools. – Check out the website for more details on each.*** |
| **How long does a septic tank / treatment system last?**  | ***As long as they are maintained correctly they can last for 40 years +*** |
| **How often does my septic tank need to be emptied?**  | ***It is advised that they are emptied every 6 – 12 months. Biopure systems are slightly different and only need emptying every 3 – 5 years.***  |
| **Should I add a bacterial activator to my system?**  | ***No! – All bacteria will form naturally during an aerobic process. Professionals emptying the tank will always ensure that a small amount of effluent is left at the bottom for faster start up.*** |
| **What size tank do I need?**  | ***Tank sizes will vary as demands of domestic and Glamping sites differ. Each individual site will need to be sized based on the needs.*** |
| **Which system can I use if I have no electricity?**  | ***Pumps can be run via solar power however the most common solution is a holding tank.***  |
| **Can water from a treatment plant be used for watering flowers?**  | ***Yes it can but not for use on vegetables.***  |
| **What happens if my ground is Hard, rocky or mainly shale or clay?** | ***These can all cause issues but each individual site needs to be visited to identify the best solutions.***  |
| **What is the best system to use if we are close to a stream or river?**  | ***Sewage treatment systems must be used in this instance, as they discharge clean water.***  |
| **How do I know if my septic tank is full?**  | ***Toilets will take longer to flush, can be nasty smells and dirty pools of discharge water.***  |
| **What are the 2020 regulations?**  | ***Septic tanks can no longer discharge in to ditches, rivers or streams. Septic tanks must be replaced or upgraded to full sewage treatment systems by 1st of Jan 2020*** |
| **How far does a treatment system or septic tank need to be from a dwelling?**  | ***Percolation Area: 10 metres. Septic Tank: 7 metres. Sewage Treatment System: 7 metres.*** |
| **Do I need planning permission?**  | ***It is advised by the environmental agency that you check with the planning authorities.***  |